

Amendments

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 12, 15 and 29-31 and cancel claims 4 and 13.

Sub 307
X
1. (Amended) A method of dividing an elongated web having a variable width into a plurality of elongated strips, comprising the steps of:
 advancing the web lengthwise in a predetermined direction along a predetermined path;
 subdividing the web into a plurality of strips, including cutting the advancing web in at least one severing plane;
 monitoring the widths of the strips and generating signals denoting the monitored signals;
 processing said signals; and
 shifting at least one of the web and the severing plane sideways when the processing step indicates departure of at least one monitored width from at least one other monitored width.

Sub 307
af
12. (Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein said step of establishing a variable spacing includes shifting at least one of the strips sideways.

Sub B
25. (Amended) Apparatus for dividing an elongated web having a variable width into two strips, comprising:

A
means for advancing the web lengthwise in a predetermined direction along a predetermined path;

means for subdividing the web into two strips including a severing unit arranged to split the web in a severing plane;

means for monitoring the widths of the strips and for generating first signals denoting the monitoring widths;

means for processing said first signals and for generating second signals when the [width] widths of the strips deviate from each other; and

adjusting means including means for shifting at least one of the web and the subdividing means transversely of said direction in response to said second signals.

Sub B
29. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein said rolls are disposed at a level below the adjacent portion of said path, the apparatus further comprising means for changing the level of at least one of said rolls.

A
30. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 29, wherein said processing means includes means for generating second signals denoting the combined width of the strips and said means for changing the level of the at least one roll is responsive to said second signals.

31. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 30, wherein said processing means further comprises means for generating additional signals denoting the widths of the strips and the strip shifting means further includes means for changing the level of the other of the rolls in response to said additional signals.